



USAID/U.S. Embassy Beijing Newsletter



USAID Mission:

We partner to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity.

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Recent Activities in USAID

U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED)

The seventh U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) and the sixth Consultation on People-to-People Exchange (CPE) was held in Washington, D.C., June 23-24, 2015.

Secretary of State John F. Kerry and Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew joined for the Dialogue by Chinese co-chairs, State Councilor Yang Jiechi and Vice Premier Wang Yang, along with members of the Chinese delegation and their U.S. colleagues. Vice Premier Liu Yandong, Secretary Kerry's Chinese co-chair at the Consultation on People-to-People Exchange, led the Chinese CPE delegation.

Over 70 outcomes were achieved in the economic track co-led by Wang Yang and Jacob Lew and the strategic track headed by Yang Jiechi and John Kerry enumerated over 120 outcomes.



U.S.-China Development Cooperation

From the respective contributions to global health security in West Africa to the joint announcement on climate change to supporting peace and stability around the globe, the United States and China recognize the importance of cooperative and complementary action among nations to address global challenges. To this end, the two countries decided to hold a special session on U.S.-China development cooperation on June 23, 2015, at the 2015 Strategic and Economic Dialogue—the highest level discussion on this issue to date between our two governments—to discuss ways to deepen our cooperation. Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Zhang Xiangchen, and the Deputy Secretary of the State, Mr. Blinken, co-chaired the high-level dialogue.

While there are differences in the two countries' approaches to development, the history of cooperation between the U.S. and China on crucial global issues is strong and growing, in areas such as climate change, the Ebola crisis, capacity building in Afghanistan, and food security in East Timor, showing that in working together, the U.S. and China can make a difference.

The special session on development marked the beginning of a new level of cooperation between the United States and China, and the two sides had fruitful discussions on key issues, including Post-Ebola recovery efforts, humanitarian assistance, disaster preparedness and response, as well as on the financing for development and the post-2015 Development Agenda now being finalized by the international community. Respective expert teams are to come together to develop concrete plans for expanded collaboration later this year and beyond.

In November of last year, President Obama and President Xi announced their commitment to expand collaboration between the two countries across a range of challenges. The two nations are now working to implement those announcements. As the world's two largest economies, the United States and China take global responsibilities seriously and are committed to join with other partners in building an inclusive global economy and achieving sustainable development for all.



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MA4 Health Summit

The U.S. Agency for International Development, the World Bank Group, the World Health Organization, countries and partners came together in June 2015 in Washington, DC, for a successful high-level summit, *Measurement and Accountability for Results in Health*. More than 600 participants came to examine and advance a common agenda for health measurement as the global health community moves into the post-2015 sustainable development era. Dozens of global health leaders from governments, multilaterals, academia, research institutions, and

civil society endorsed [The Roadmap for Health Measurement and Accountability](#) and a [5-Point Call to Action](#). The Roadmap and 5-Point Call outline a shared strategic approach and priority actions that countries and development partners can use to put effective health monitoring plans in place to strengthen health information systems. The summit organizers announced a consultative process to develop a new Global Health Data Collaborative to guide this agenda moving forward.

USAID, DFID Partner to Advance Girls' Education

June 16, 2015, USAID announced an expanded partnership with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) to advance girls' education around the world.

As part of that commitment, USAID and DFID announced a new partnership of up to \$180 million over five years in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (£36M committed by DFID; up to \$125M by USAID) that will enable girls who are not in school to access accelerated and alternative learning programs in conflict-affected areas. This program will benefit more than 755,000 girls ages 10-18 over the next five years.

The joint announcement, made by First Lady Michelle Obama during her trip to London, builds upon investments made by the international community—including the United States—and the new Let Girls Learn initiative, launched by the President and First Lady in March.

USAID and DFID will also continue to collaborate on girls' education through DFID's Girls' Education Challenge, and new instruments including USAID's Education in Conflict and Crisis Network that will produce research, guidance and technical support, and a shared platform for what works to increase access to quality education for children and youth,

especially adolescent girls. This expanded partnership invites other organizations to collaborate and share best practices, broadening efforts to impact adolescent girls worldwide.



An Indian girl presents her own story based on the words written on the board.

Photo credit: Christine Beggs.

USAID New Program for Mothers and Children

June 9, 2015, Afghanistan's Minister of Public Health joined Mission Director for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Afghanistan, launched a new five-year USAID program to reduce Afghanistan's high rate of death among mothers, infants and children under age five.

Ministry officials, representatives of U.N. agencies and organizations dedicated to implementing health-care solutions participated in the event. USAID is investing \$60 million in the HEMAYAT: Helping Mothers and Children Thrive project. It will work with the Ministry of Public Health, the private sector and civil society to promote proven, cost-effective, life-saving

health practices for vulnerable populations in the most rural and hard-to-reach communities in 21 provinces in Afghanistan.

USAID's investment builds on the successful U.S.-Afghan partnership. USAID has supported the Ministry of Public Health to provide the basic package of health services and essential package of hospital services to the Afghan population. The new investment supports the aims of the Ministry of Public Health's May 2015 'Call to Action: Renewing the Promise for Maternal and Child Survival.'



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What's New in Beijing USAID

Alex Thier's Visit to Beijing

From May 19–22, Mr. Alex Thier, the Assistant Administrator of the Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning (PPL), and Mr. Scott Kleinburg, the Acting Director of Donor Engagement of PPL, visited Beijing and had a series of meetings with USAID counterpart agencies in China, as well as donor agencies, NGOs and the Chinese academies.

During the meetings with the Chinese counterpart agencies, Mr. Thier raised the idea of a high-level cross-cutting dialogue on development between the U.S. and China during the upcoming S&Ed, and shared the U.S. views on sustainable development goals after 2015 and U.S. insights on financing for development. Mr. Thier also discussed the potentials of cooperation between USAID and Chinese counterparts

on tri-lateral cooperation in food security, global health, and humanitarian assistance.

In the exchange with students of Tsinghua University, Mr. Thier presented the USAID successful stories of poverty reduction projects in various countries and had an in-depth discussion with the students on the role of technology and innovation in ending extreme poverty by 2030.

You can access Mr. Thier's presentation at

<http://www.usaid.gov/news-information/videos/ending-extreme-poverty-alex-thier-tedx-foggy-bottom>



Meeting with stakeholders of global health on May 20, 2015.

Financing for Sustainable Development Forum in Korea

On May 18, 2015, the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) co-hosted the Seoul Financing for Sustainable Development Forum. This Forum convened over two hundred policy makers, business leaders, academics and civil society representatives to discuss practical initiatives for the Third Conference on Financing for Development to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July 2015. The successes of South Korea's economic development provided an important backdrop to the Forum.



Ms. Maria Rendon, Development Counselor in Beijing, represented USAID in the Forum.

Ms. Rendon (right), Australia's former Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and the President of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Mr. Young-mok Kim.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact us by sending emails to beijingusaid@state.gov